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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :

Yuji MIZUGUCHI et al. : Docket No. 2000-1776A

Serial No. 09/749,723 : Group Art Unit 2633

Filed December 28, 2000 :

SYSTEM, METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DATA TRANSMISSION

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of [X] the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or [] the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No. .

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, **or**

before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2) [] the fee of $180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of $180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

2. It is hereby certified

a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

b. [] that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. [] Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:

a. [X] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,

b. [] a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,

c. [] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,

d. [] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,

e. [] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:

5. [] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Yuji MIZUGUCHI et al.

By _____

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May 21, 2001

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sheet 1 of 1

FORM PTO 1449 (*modified*)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(*Use several sheets if necessary*)

Date Submitted to PTO: May 21, 2001

ATTY DOCKET NO.	SERIAL NO.
2000-1776A	09/749,723

APPLICANT
Yuji MIZUGUCHI et al.

FILING DATE	GROUP
December 28, 2000	2633

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	TRANSLATION NO
REC.	AJ	2000-101615	4/2000	JP	376		partial ✓	
	AK							
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (*Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.*)

	AO	
	AP	
	AQ	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: *Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.*

Title of the Prior Art

Japanese Published Patent Application No. 2000-101615

Date of Publication: April 7, 2000

Concise Statement of Relevancy

(1) Explanation of Japanese Published Patent Application No. 2000-101615

This publication discloses that, in a transmission system which comprises plural tributary stations 9a, 9b, . . ., 9n which are cascade-connected, and a control station 10m which is connected with the tributary station 9n as the end of these tributary stations, and in which analog signals such as video signal are transmitted to the control station from the designated tributary station via an analog transmission line 13, when an analog signal supplied from the tributary station to the control station is switched to the one from the other tributary station, a system synchronizing signal generated at the control station is transmitted to the respective tributary stations via a digital transmission line 14, in order to solve the problem that the disarrangement of a monitor screen at the control station is caused by an analog signal from the respective tributary stations being asynchronous.

In the above-described reference the synchronous information for synchronization of the isochronous data is transmitted from the receiving end terminal to the transmitting end terminal.

In the reference, a single receiving end terminal is connected to plural transmitting end terminals.

The isochronous data and the synchronous information are transmitted by separate transmission lines in the reference